





# Grove City, Ohio

With a vibrant business climate, great interstate highway access, proactive government, healthy city finances, strong educational opportunities, a diverse housing market and numerous current developments, Grove City offers unmatched opportunities to new and existing businesses. The City offers services to aid new businesses while maintaining a strong focus on retention of existing commerce. A special emphasis is placed upon development requirements, which set high standards to ensure quality development and planned growth. Grove City's location, coupled with reasonable land costs and progressive incentives, has created a diverse business base, establishing a solid revenue stream to support future generations. Life in Grove City, Ohio, is simply special.

# Clearly Above the Rest

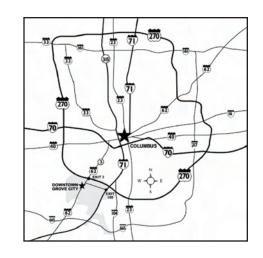






## Location

Grove City, located in southwestern Franklin County, is a vibrant community of more than 33,000 residents. It is located less than 10 minutes from downtown Columbus, the 15th largest city in the United States and the largest in Ohio. The Columbus Marketing Statistical Area (MSA) population in 2000 was 1,540,157, an increase of more than 12 percent over 1990. The estimated MSA population for 2005 was 1,701,266, indicating a continued pattern of growth in the region. Although in proximity to Columbus, Grove City has maintained its own identity and small-town charm.



## Access

Grove City is conveniently located along two main central Ohio transportation corridors with immediate access points located along I-71 at Stringtown Road and at State Route 665, and along I-270 at U.S. Route 62. Grove City is less than five minutes from I-70. The community is within a day's drive of 60% of the U.S. and Canadian population and within 500 miles of 60% of all U.S. manufacturing and disposable income. Grove City is diversifying its economy with an international outlook and is actively seeking medical, financial and technological companies. Convenient access to interstates, airports and major shipping services make Grove City ideal for any company striving to be a part of the global economy.

### **Labor Force**

The available labor force in the Columbus MSA exceeds 840,000 with unemployment in the 5% range. Grove City's employment continues steady growth and diversification. In the decade from 1990 to 2000, Grove City represented the third largest share of regional job growth. In 2005, local jobs were estimated to have surpassed 20,000, and 2006 income tax receipts ranked third among Columbus suburbs. Outstanding financial health supports the further development of infrastructure and the underlying base of services that support an enviable quality of life. Attention on increasing office and medical facilities is reaping significant benefits. A vigilant focus on business retention enhances economic viability.





## **Education**

Grove City is served by the South-Western City School District, Ohio's sixth largest. Within the city limits, the district operates two high schools, a career center, two schools for challenged students and 10 elementary, intermediate and middle schools. Three private grade schools and a high school also operate in Grove City. More than 100,000 students attend 20 institutions of higher education in central Ohio, with 20,000 graduating annually. The Ohio State University, a major research institution and one of the nation's largest campuses, is only 15 minutes from Grove City. The percentage of residents earning degrees continues to grow, with Grove City outpacing the state average.

## Livability

Grove City is a most attractive and inviting location in which to reside. From the historic, gas-lit Town Center to the modern retail development east of I-71, new and upgraded infrastructure, and cultural and recreational choices, there is plenty to experience. As Grove City moves forward, the roots of the community remain paramount. The city has preserved its historic downtown area, the Town Center. This gathering place is a center of culture and entertainment, home to a live theatre, a summer concert series, and a renowned fine arts festival, as well as the public library, and various financial, retail, dining, and nightlife options. City Hall and public safety offices are also located in this central business district.

Enhancement of the quality of life for those who work or live in Grove City is a driving force. There is an ongoing commitment to develop green space and to enhance recreational programming with valued citizen input. In 2006, Grove City Parks and Recreation became one of just 60 departments nationwide and five in Ohio to gain full accreditation from the National Recreation and Parks Association. This department offers hundreds of classes, programs and events for all ages and maintains three signature parks, a destination garden, a senior center, a family water park, a state-of-the-art skate park, eight playgrounds and numerous sport fields and bike paths. There is also a firm commitment to the environment. Partnerships with businesses, organizations and volunteers have led to expansive programs such as an award-winning local Keep America Beautiful affiliate and successful Adopt-a-Street activities and clean-up events. The curbside recycling program continues to grow in participation, and a special citizen-outreach event, Environmental Day, earned a National Distinguished Service citation in 2006.

## Safety

The Grove City Division of Police and the Jackson Township Fire Department provide safety services for this thriving community. In true Grove City spirit, these two agencies operated by separate governmental organizations work together to protect the well-being of citizens under the same 9-1-1 emergency communication system. The Division of Police is committed to keeping Grove City safe and maintains accreditation from the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, held by less than 6 percent of agencies nationwide. Safety forces meet the challenge of a growing community by expanding and refining community outreach programs and techniques to prevent and solve crime and by embracing technology that facilitates regional cooperation among numerous safety

## Housing

Diverse housing options contribute to Grove City's livability. From an individual or a new family looking to own their first home to an established executive building a dream home on a golf course to retirees looking to downsize their living arrangements, Grove City offers something for everyone in safe, well-serviced neighborhoods. The value of a new home in 2006 exceeded \$250,000, driven by executive-style homes ranging up to \$750,000. Grove City is attractive to residents who desire hometown convenience as the city offers dining, shopping, medical and service options among the best of central Ohio suburbs.





### Air & Rail

Grove City has easy access to the region's three airports. Port Columbus International Airport is served by 10 airlines and their regional affiliates with over 180 daily non-stop flights to 37 destinations. Remaining domestic and major international markets are accessible through one-stop service. The airport served 6.7 million passengers in 2006. Rickenbacker International Airport, less than 20 minutes from Grove City, is a first-class cargo airport offering high-speed logistical movement of goods with complementary services and support facilities, including a foreign trade zone. Construction has begun on a new intermodal facility expected to be operational by 2008. Immediately west of Grove City is Bolton Field Airport, a premier general-aviation airport serving corporate and personally owned aircraft.





#### **Utilities**

Grove City's water and sewer services are provided by the City of Columbus. Electricity is provided by American Electric Power/Columbus Southern Power, and natural gas by Columbia Gas of Ohio. Telephone service is provided by SBC Ohio. Grove City possesses the utility capacity to service dramatic industrial, commercial and residential growth decades into the future.

## The Spirit of Grove City

Grove City attributes its success to many fostered partnerships. Internal collaboration among the Administration, City Council, and numerous boards and commissions continue to reap strong rewards. Productive working relationships between the City and the Grove City Area Visitors and Convention Bureau, the Grove City Area Chamber of Commerce, Town Center businesses, Southwest Public Libraries, the Southwest Franklin County Historical Society and many others promote and cultivate the best the city has to offer. The spirit of Grove City is one of cooperation. The City works closely with Jackson Township to coordinate services, and maintains strong relationships with other suburbs through the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC). The community is rich with groups and leaders committed to creating an unmatched spirit of mutual support. Grove City's service organizations, scouting groups, schools, church societies and individual volunteers all share in a spirit of service. These groups collaborate to bolster city events and improve public amenities. Grove City also possesses a strong and active veteran presence driven by the proud members of the American Legion and Veterans of Foreign Wars posts.

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#### Contact

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